NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.)

VOL. XVIII.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 22, 1840. [NO. 42.

N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM FOSTER, Esq.

[Concluded.]

Cadiz in Spain, is a city of about eighty thousand inhabitants. It is a peninsula, and is separated from the main land by a barren neck of sand, seven or eight miles long, without a sign of vegetation, excepting where it has been created by the industry of man, and the elements in conjunction. This city is wholly supplied with vegetables, and chiefly with milk, by gardens made on this barren sand.—The city affords little manure, the streets being very narrow, and there being but few horses there.

These gardens are made level, and intersected by little gutters to conduct water into the beds, into which they are divided about 40 by 20 feet, hemmed round by little dams about 12 inches high. When the ditches are filled with water in the manner I shall explain presently, the gardener with his hoe makes a small gap in the dam and floods these beds, one after the other, and closes them when so flooded. This operation is performed once or oftener, in a day, according to circumstances. It must be noticed that there are six months of the year during which little or no rain falls in the south of Spain. But the water for this irrigation is drawn from wells in a very simple and cheap manner.—Over the well there is a machine called *Norice*, consisting of one perpendicular wheel with projecting cogs, which geor into an old-fashioned lantern. On the opposite side of the cogs, stand off wooden spokes about 14 inches long; over these spokes hangs an endless band, composed of two parallel bass ropes; between these ropes there are fastened a number of earthen pots, which go down empty on one side and come up full on the other, and discharge into a trough, from which the little garden canals are supplied. The pots have a small aperture in the bottom, to allow the air to escape, while they are filling.

Notwithstanding the numerous hydraulic machines to draw water from wells, this, although the most ancient, is the most productive by any given power. It is still in use in Egypt and on the whole northern coast of Africa. This simple mill is turned by a horse, a cow, or an ass.

Here then is nothing but water, air, sun and sand to produce vegetables for eighty thousand inhabitants. I make no mention here of the shipping, which is very numerous, but leave that to balance the supply of vegetables which may come from more distant places.

I will mention one small experiment of my own. While in France, and a *quasi* farmer, I came in possession of a few potatoes from an English wreck, and planted them on a perfect swamp, barely strong enough to support a few wheelbarrow loads of barren gravel, which was near at hand. In these heaps of gravel, which I made in imitation of the potato hills which I remembered at home, I planted a few potatoes, and gathered an excellent crop of fine potatoes. Now these floating hills of gravel performed merely the function of a matrix, in which the vegetable congestion was performed: the *nourishment* of the plant came from the air and water; or their united powers decomposed a part of the gravel and a part of the bog, and prepared them also for vegetable aliment. I dwell on this subject for the purpose of fixing your attention to the very important part which air, light, heat and water have in vegetable formation. It will not be strenuously contended by any one that the lifeless gravel was, in this case, an important constituent of the potato crop. And if there be any analogy between the powers of animal digestion on living food, (which are said to be null,) and vegetable digestion, the living bog could not have anorded any nourishment to my potatoes, although the *decayed* portions of the bog might have contributed to it in some degree. Still there is scope enough left to show that water and air were the principal constituents. That water will produce solids, in a great variety of forms and substances, has been sufficiently proved in our own imperfect chemical laboratories. What wonders nature *can* perform with the same substance, we may never entirely know. But we find this important element in all her works; and none of them without some proof of its agency.

Stagnant water in a basin of inert clay, cannot remain long without discovering signs of incipient vegetation, in that green scum which soon appears; and soon after, without any apparent generative cause, animal existence becomes apparent.

Being now convinced of the vast importance of this great agent, let us keep our sylvan nets always spread, and ready to arrest it in its passage from the lakes and the ocean over the thirsty earth; and then let us economise it by all possible means; and not let it run too hastily to the ocean from whence it came, before it has paid its due tribute.

We often hear during great droughts, of water being so scarce that cattle must be driven miles to be watered. Now, it would be hardly possible to find a farm which presents some inequality of surface, where the superfluous water from higher grounds could not be conducted into a place of deposit below. There are thousands, even, which offer better places of deposit on high locations, in the gorges of hills, where a short dam would retain thousands of hogsheads of water, which might be used for irrigation, as well as for other purposes; and where water is at command, we have seen above, vegetable increase is certain. As it is well to mix a little practice with theory, I will relate the story of a small trial in this neighborhood and on a place not the most favorable.

A number of years ago, Mr Francis Amory, called upon me to visit his farm in Milton, to advise him about getting soft water for his house. This farm is near to the Blue Hill ridge, but is detached from it, and forms an insulated rising by itself, the greater part of the land being higher than the grounds about the house. We chose the lowest part of an adjoining meadow, near the house, for the place of our reservoir, over which the wash of the higher ground in the rear naturally flowed, though not in the form of a brook, but quite imperceptibly, as on any moderate declivity. There we dug a reservoir about twelve feet diameter, and as many deep, and stoned it with common wall stones. From the house to this reservoir there was laid a lead pipe, for the convenience of pumping the water into the kitchen. This reservoir, I am almost annually informed by Mr Amory, has never failed in the driest seasons.

The city of Cadiz occupies less ground by three quarters than Boston, and contains about the same number of inhabitants. For six months of the year little or no rain falls there; yet the roofs of their houses furnish them water for all purposes but drinking. This water is conducted into stone tanks. It was on a suggestion of this fact, several years ago, that our city government adopted their present system of reservoirs, which may be made to furnish twenty times more than it now does, at a small additional expenditure.

There are situations where water may be easily collected, but from whence it cannot, without too much expense, be taken by natural inclination for irrigation or other purposes where it is wanted. But there are various modes of removing this water mechanically. Let us suppose that it is now wanted in a direct line over a rising ground of 20 feet elevation, to irrigate a meadow. The *Norice*, described above, would answer the purpose, but might be too expensive for our country. The *Hydraulic Ram*, of which I shall offer you a plan, would be less expensive of labor, but vastly wasteful of water; and is useful only to elevate smaller quantities of water for houses and stables. The *Syphon*, however, may be used to great advantage, under all elevations, which come within the pressure of the atmosphere, viz. about 32 feet; or where the crown of a hill may be reduced by a trench for the Syphon, *to* that elevation. This Syphon may be from one inch bore to any other convenient calibre; and will continue to run as long as there is any water in the reservoir.

It would seem, when we contemplate the expensive Roman aqueducts, that they were unacquainted with this hydraulic instrument. It was first applied upon a large scale in this country, I believe, at my suggestion, by the father of our present Mayor, at Charlestown, to draw water to a well in his distillery, from another well, several hundred feet distant; and afterwards on the Boston Mill Dam, for one mile. All over continental Europe, where the smallest spring can be found, it is used in succession by all who can have access to it, to make artificial ponds, where fish are raised for consumption. It would be an interesting question of rural economy to learn how much these ponds contribute to the food of man. The amount must be very great, but I do not remember to have seen it stated in the European statistics.

In that part of France where I lived, although the farms are very small, from ten to twentyfive acres, they obtain shelter for their grain and other low vegetation, and attract moisture from the air by the same means. These small farms are divid-

ed into small fields, each one fenced in by mounds of earth, supported by sods laid flat one upon another. These earthen fences are about six feet at their base, and five feet high; and are covered with a nine years' growth of scrub oak, hazlenut or chesnut. I say nine years' growth, because they are cut in rotation every nine years; thus yielding an annual cut for fuel out of nine fields; and yet retaining the advantages of shelter and attraction, for the whole farm, for a large part of these enclosures is always covered with a thick hedge of verdure of various degrees of elevation.

It is difficult to account for the great product of these small farms otherwise than by giving great credit to this mode of close culture. The arguments used in favor of it are these. These hotbeds or moist beds, as I may indifferently call them, retain all that is put on them, in manure, and the rain which falls *in* them has time to penetrate the earth, and does not run away laden with vegetable spoils. The driving winds cannot sweep off too suddenly the volatile elements of the manure, or exhaust the plants by too rapid breathing, or shake them too violently, and break or disturb their roots; and as for a general prostration, that cannot happen. Although the temperature is sufficiently high for vegetation, and more equable, the scorching midday sun is mitigated. No drenching showers can here carry away the seed, and the soil.

To form an opinion of these little farms, it is enough to know, that their occupants, who before the revolution never owned them, and now, not commonly, pay first rent to the landlord, then very high direct taxes, besides an infinity of indirect impositions; such as the tobacco tax, even on that which they raise; on their own wine, on a certain quantity of salt, whether they consume so much or not; and after all, on the very articles they carry to market, they pay an excise city duty. To do all this, on a farm of fifteen acres, and raise three or four horses, a yoke of oxen, several cows, pigs and poultry, is evidence enough of a very productive system of culture. Yet their instruments of husbandry are very inferior to ours. On the seacoast, besides kelp and seaweed, they draw from the sea a calcareous substance, about the size of coarse gravel: it is the exuvia of shellfish, I believe. They obtain this substance with what the fishermen call a drag net. It answers the double purpose of plaster, chemically, and sand, mechanically: it mellows and loosens the soil; also, like lime and salt, attracts moisture, to aid in the decomposition of every thing which *may* enter into the vegetable construction.

The roots of the trees which cover closely the earthen fences, contribute to hold them up; and they require but little repairs in the spring. Thus much for close culture.

Extremes are sometimes used by logicians to prove cases; and I would be allowed this privilege in this case.

The once fertile and cultivated northern shores of Africa, are now a barren wilderness: the once productive plains of Spain now produce nothing.—These sites were once measurably protected by vegetation of a lofty growth. This was, in a degree, a system of close culture. From the barren condition in which we find them now, to the close culture in France, just mentioned, are my extremes. The gradation from one to the other has been a matter of necessity, growing out of the increasing wants of an increasing population. Science has no initiative merit in this affair; otherwise than as all science is derived from experience. But we *do* learn in these extremes one useful lesson, which is, that vegetable substance is susceptible of great increase, independently of manure.

However little credit may be given to that theory which assigns such important powers over the vegetable creation as it has been attempted here to find in forest trees on high lands, especially, it requires not much credulity or forecast to believe that *wood* of itself, must become more valuable every year, so long as our population is on the increase. It is a silent, ever-growing crop, which requires no labor, not even fencing, after it has got out of the reach of cattle. In the circuit of about fifteen miles about Boston, I am informed by one of the most observing and intelligent landholders of this state, that woodlands increase by their growth about fifteen per cent. If this be near the truth, putting the annual increased demand out of the question, it would seem, that this is a very great interest.

To talk of an annual crop of wood in this country of rapid movements, and of impatience to enjoy precocious fruits, would be idle. Fathers are too apt to think that no heritage is so good for their children as a little ready money, or stocks which yield a semi-annual interest: yet how many have paid dear for this opinion. My father-in-law planted about five thousand forest trees annually, and had for sale an annual crop of full grown timber. How could he do this, it will be asked: why, because his predecessors did the same before him; and his successor is now, I trust, following the same practice.

It has appeared wonderful to Englishmen and Americans, that such a population as that of France could be supplied with wood fuel. In addition to the wood raised in the manner described above in Brittany, there are forests of various dimensions, all over France; some owned by government and others by individuals. These forests are of two kinds; the one called *Bois de Haut Futaie*, or full grown trees; and the other *Bois Taillis*, or wood of nine, or eighteen years growth, according to the usage of different provinces. These forests are divided by cart-ways in measured sections, and are commonly sold at auction when of the given age. Thus the proprietors have an annual crop without labor or manure; and thirtythree millions of people are supplied with fuel. The lands destined for this purpose are generally such as are least suitable for cultivation, although there is much good land covered with wood. These forests require no planting: they grow spontaneously, as the lots stripped of their wood are protected all round by other lots in full growth. The plantations made by my father-in-law, are border and ornamental plantations, dividing the fields of a large estate. In making his transplantations from his nurseries, I observed that he was particularly careful to mark each tree, so as to give it the same exposition in its new bed as it had in the place where it was raised.

Fool Rot in Sheep.—The Maine Farmer gives the following remedy for this disease:—First, cut away, with a sharp knife, the horn of the hoof, and let the part diseased bleed freely; then cleanse it well with soap suds; then take blue vitriol, make a strong decoction of it in water or spirits, and plunge the foot in it, or apply it faithfully to every part. This should be done frequently, and care be taken that no dirt get into the diseased parts.

For the N. E. Farmer.

SCIENCE FOR FARMERS.

To witness the *improvements* which have been made in agricultural implements, it is only necessary to contrast the most finished and convenient ones of modern times with the clumsy, ill-constructed accoutrements of the ancients, or indeed of those nations of modern times who are pursuing the dark luckless paths which have been travelled by their ancestors from time immemorial. Thus we see in the finished and well executed plough of modern days, a beautiful and useful improvement upon the unsightly, ill-contrived, and vexatious working implement of the middle ages, when a strength of man and beast was necessary to subdue the soil, which would ill become the labor saving propensities of the nineteenth century. We may carry the contrast further, and witness the more visible difference between the ploughs even of those dark and dismal days, and the pick-like instrument with which the nations of earth's morning broke the soil.

But we need not unshroud the past nor remove the veil from the sepulchre of buried ages, to witness the march of improvements to which "the art which calls the harvest forth" is daily becoming more and more subjected. Take the world as it is, (and it is certainly a "matter-of-fact" world,) and we have sufficient evidence. Compare the agricultural implements of those parts of the United States where agriculture has been carried to the greatest perfection, and of England with those of other nations. As we have begun with the plough we will not look back from it, but consider the difference between those which "heave the glebes" around us, and those of some other countries. Take China, where, as Loudon says, "agriculture has in all ages been encouraged and honored," where "the emperor once a year holds a plough in the presence of his subjects," and the article (a specimen of the whole) thus guided by his royal hand, is said to have but one handle, no coulter, to be drawn by one ox, sometimes by women. It is described as possessing all the rudeness which the state of a nation like the Chinese would naturally warrant. Go to Egypt, and we are assured of finding ploughs and other implements of the rudest kind. The common plough of Castile, Spain, is supposed in kind to be the same as was used by the old Romans, while that of Valentia is said to approximate very nearly to the one described by Virgil almost two thousand years ago. What an excitement one of these articles would create, if exhibited at a New England ploughing match! What wondering would arise if a New England farmer should assert his intention to till the earth with such a *thing!* The public voice would rise unanimously against him, and public opinion would declare him to be so furiously mad as to render his going at large dangerous, and adjudge him a fit subject for commitment at the Worcester lunatic hospital. But we will take one step more in representing the horrible. In Poland, where the peasant acts as plough-maker, wheel-wright, &c., it is not unusual to see a plough constructed of the trunk of a young fir tree, a root supplying the place of a share, and the trunk the ploughman's handle, with a cow attached as team. The ploughs of Russia and the countries of the north of Europe, have a rudeness in the construction which would forbid a Yankee to guess what they are.

We have named only a single article of husband-

ry in the models of which improvements exist, in proportion to the advancement of the nations where they are to be found in civilization, refinement and the arts. We might go through with all the et ceteras of agricultural labor and improvements, and find a similar state of things existing with regard to carts, wagons, ploughs, hoes, spades, scythes, indeed every thing which is brought in the culture of the earth, and the ingathering and securing of its crops. Now the problem for solution is, whence come all these differences? Why does not the Chinese throw away his plough, formed from a model as old as his empire, or the Polander let his fir-tree grow, root and branch, and adopt the light, thorough-working, labor-saving, cast iron plough that we of these regions of the setting sun so much admire? Simply because they know no better. Guided by a sort of instinct in these matters, they seek no better things. They are, in fact, very much like the Dutchman, who put his bushel of corn in one end of the bag and a stone of equal weight in the other, to balance it, and threw it across his horse to carry to mill. On being enquired of why he did not throw away the stone and divide the corn in the bag so as to balance itself, he replied, he had *never thought* of that, but as *his father* always used the same stone for similar purposes, he was sure it was the best way. Such is the case with nations and individuals, who pass along in the old rutted track of their ancestors, with regard to improvements in agricultural implements. They know of no other—seek no other way. But how are these improvements brought about? Just as are those in navigation, travelling by land, propelling machinery by water or steam, or any thing else is accomplished—by the application of *science* to the completion of the object; and the effects of it are as positive and as useful in the construction of the humblest tool which the laborer uses in cultivating the earth, as in building steamboats, railroads, introducing labor-saving machinery into manufactories, or "for any other purpose or purposes whatsoever"; because these improvements enable the farmer to perform more labor, cultivate more earth, and do it better than it could be done under the discouraging circumstances which bad tools would necessarily create.

In proportion as the earth is thoroughly cultivated its productiveness is increased; consequently the farmer receives greater returns for his labor in ratio to the number of his acres, and in the same proportion the surplus for public demand is increased; so that the benefit of this improvement is not restricted to the farmer, but extends itself through every nerve and muscle of the body politic, insomuch that all classes of consumers share its good effects.

We are well aware that it may be said that farmers are not plough-makers nor wheel-wrights, nor any of these things; that it belongs to the artisan to invent and fabricate his implements. Admitted, the mechanic must manufacture the tools of agriculture. He can do it cheaper and in a more workmanlike manner than one unused to such employments, and by so doing the obligations of trade meet a happy reciprocation. But then the farmer is the only true judge of the merits of a plough, whether in all its particulars it is most admirably adapted to operate successfully in this soil or that; or in the construction of a wagon or cart, whether one of this construction can be most easily drawn over his fields and the highways adjacent thereto, or whether a variation of structure would not be desirable; and when he has ascertained the fact to his mind's satisfaction, which may be done by models, he may go to his artisan and have one constructed accordingly. Hence we see the propriety of the farmers understanding the science of mechanics, one which is by no means restricted to the things herein specified, but as having an extended effect in his operations—in the construction of gates and bars—in building walls—opening drains, locating and working highways and private ways,—indeed in almost every thing.

The location and construction of roads is a matter of interest to all men, whether of business or pleasure; to the teamster who moves his heavily laden cart sluggishly along, and the bearer of the express which requires despatch. In hilly regions, where roads must of necessity pass over many of "earth's protuberances," it is certainly an object to secure their location in such places as that a team will haul a given burden over them with the least fatigue: humanity and *interest*, the great mover of human effort require it; and in these rises and descents, must be performed on an inclined plane, more or less perfectly constructed. We have sometimes seen instances where this was done in the worst way imaginable. It was like passing over the bail of a kettle; sometime almost perpendicularly and then nearly horizontal. There is no necessity for such roads. They are laid out and wrought by no fixed principle. The inclination of the plain might invariably have been so regular as to have been overcome with comparatively perfect ease, insomuch that great labor will be saved in moving a given weight over them.

These swamps, too, are all of them one day to be cleared of their superfluous moisture, and for their owners the sooner it is done the better, for they are certainly in many instances, his deepest, richest soils. One of them in the neighborhood of where we write, over which the western railroad is now building, has been fathomed sixtyfive feet, and there are others around us of less depth of pure mould, and many of them of nearly a water level. How shall the water which is so abundant in them, be most successfully taken off? Drains must be constructed to collect and carry it away we know; and that a proper construction of them to do so, is evident; and the utility of the knowledge of hydraulics in giving them a right location and structure, is fact positive.

It may, to be sure, so happen that farmers are not their own ditchers: very seldom that they are, and while the present influx of foreigners, among whom there are so many who can do faster, cheaper, and in many instances better than himself, continues, he will probably find it to his advantage to employ them in these services; yet it is for him to make the draft and give the plan of the work; and if a total failure result, he may give credit to his own ignorance.

The same science which applies to draining lands, by a change of causes calculated to produce alike beneficial effects, teaches the best mode of irrigation,—a method of watering dry territories not so much practised among farmers at present as it should, and eventually will be. How much of the wealth of barnyards is now utterly lost to its owner in consequence of being allowed to evaporate or pass into the atmosphere, or what is worse, pass off into the highway to create mud, to the great annoyance of man and beast, or to some field or land where no salutary effect can be produced from its action? And on our highways too, how often, in time of showers, do we see the accumulated waters allowed to course the distance of half a mile or more—not only opening hideous gulleys to entrap the traveller, but bearing a wealth to annihilation, so far as useful purposes are concerned, which, if it had been taken from the road at proper distances and turned upon the neighboring fields, would have given them a wealth indeed, more than sufficient to have compensated the owner for his trouble, and to some extent would have abridged the vexation of raising an enormous highway tax, while the traveller as he jogged smoothly and easily over a highway, which by such care and attentions almost always kept itself in good repair, would mentally at least, express his obligations while passing along, and when he had, after the journeyings of the day are ended and he seeks repose, instead of dreaming of the horrors of an inquisition or the tortures of the knout, the airy vigils of his midnight slumbers would lead him through arcadian groves, beside still waters and flowery fields.

Yours, truly, W. B.

Mount Osceola, March 28, 1840.

The subjoined is a well written and instructive essay on the raising of poultry, by one who evidently has some practical knowledge of what he is writing about. We hope soon to hear from our friend Hunt, of Pennsylvania. We trust our readers will not think that the hens make too much cackling in our paper of late. If any married man complains of this, we shall know very well that he is henpecked, and is a little disturbed at finding the same dish abroad that he is obliged so often to sit down to at home. We know our Hingham subscribers will not find fault—where, good careful souls as we know them to be, they never suffer a hen to quit the house in the morning until she has paid for her night's lodging, "cash down." H. C.

From the Yankee Farmer.

POULTRY—EGGS.

Among all nations throughout the globe, eggs and poultry have long been used, and highly prized as articles of food. But for lack of information, or the bestowal of proper attention in the management of fowls, the small quantity and high price of eggs in New England markets, during the winter season, cause most persons in moderate circumstances to do without them, while those of larger means use them as expensive luxuries. This, it is believed, is quite unnecessary; and as the Yankee Farmer is ardently devoted to all good improvement, I propose to give in its columns, a few practical hints, which are the result of personal observation and experiment.

The first important requisite in *henology* is, to provide suitable shelter. As cheap and good a method as any is, to erect a shed or 'lean to,' attached to a barn or other building; the size for thirty hens and three protectors of the flock, should be twelve feet long and eight feet wide, with the earth for a floor. The south side should have rather large openings for glass windows—(these windows may be used for the hot-bed in the spring and summer)—in the winter, and grates in the summer.

At the north side of the room, there should be built at one end, rows of boxes for nests, the number of nests to be about three-fifths of the number of the flock, leaving a small passage near the end wall, just sufficient for a person to pass between

the wall and the edge of the nests, for the purpose of sweeping, cleansing and white-washing it; and allowing the nests to project into the room in the centre, where they should be well boarded and secured by lids to cover the nests from sight. The passage spoken of would form a sort of alcove, with the nests presenting a front towards the wall; but by lifting the lids of the nest, a view of the nests may be had, and the eggs obtained from the back of the nests towards the centre of the room. This passage should be guarded at the entrance by a door with an aperture at the bottom, sufficiently large to admit the easy passage of the largest member of the flock; and should also be lighted by a small window in the north end. The hen is a prude and delights in secresy and mystery about her nest, and if watched, and without the advantages of such concealment as is agreeable, will cease laying.—She is, moreover, like certain politicians in public life, delighted at the chances to "dodge;" and to please her in this particular, an aperture should be made near the floor at the north end of the passage for her to retreat into the centre of the room, so that on finding herself pursued in the passage, she may dodge out, without being obliged to fly over the person's head or between his feet. This method of arranging the nests secures all the desired advantages of secresy and security, although the hen were as fastidious as a hypocrite.

The hen-house should be provided with large boxes, which for thirty hens, should be each about three feet square and one foot high. One to contain wheat or corn and oats; another, dry sandy soil and wood ashes; another, old lime, mortar, small light colored pebbles or gravel, pounded crockery, glass ware, bones, and clam and oyster shells; all or either of them, as they may be convenient; and the other to receive the crumbs from the kitchen. A trough cut from solid timber, will be found the best vessel to contain water, as it will not be likely to leak, and in the winter season the ice can be cut from it without injury.

Neither of the boxes should ever be filled more than half full, or suffered to become quite empty; for if filled, the hens will waste their food—and if allowed to become empty, they will miss their supply of food, and when again supplied will eat too much, in expectation of another similar famine.—By keeping a supply before them they will pick what they need, consume much less food, and keep in better condition than when fed occasionally, though plentifully. The soil and ashes are necessary for the hens to dust themselves in; and the lime and pebbles, to aid in the digestion of their food, and to supply shells to their eggs.

Hens suffer from vermin when shut up in filthy pens, and care should be exercised to keep their room clean and sweet, by sweeping, changing the litter in the nests, and whitewashing every part in a thorough manner. A sick hen is always dirty, and a dirty hen is very liable to become sick. The cottagers of Scotland always have eggs in abundance, and of superior quality; and the reason assigned is, that the hens share the dwelling of the owner, and lay their eggs among the clean straw of the children's crib.

There should be affixed near the roof of the hen-house, several poles for roosts, under which should be a scaffold for holding the manure. This manure is highly esteemed by many as a dressing for onion beds, and I believe is sometimes used in the arts. At one corner of the room there should be a ladder, reaching from the floor to the ends of the roosts, at an angle of about forty-five degrees, for the accommodation of young pullets and heavy old hens, and for those who, for reasons best known to themselves, come down from the roost at too late an hour for them to fly to their places again.

When the owner desires to raise chickens to increase his flock and supply his table, the period from the last of March to the first of June should be taken for setting the hens, and a larger number of eggs than usual allowed to remain in the nest.—When a hen clucks, and remains on the nest, instead of allowing her to set in that situation where she will be constantly liable to disturbance from other hens, I prepare a hard smooth nest in a box, in which I place the eggs, and in the evening I raise the hen, remove the eggs that are under her, put the hen in the box I have prepared, and the box in the original nest. By the next evening the hen has become attached to her new nest, which may then be removed to some secure place, away from other hens, and where she may find room for exercise and a supply of food and drink. I have frequently used empty flour barrels as shelter for setting hens, by turning them down upon the side in the yard, and placing the box inside. There is quite a benefit in setting a number of hens at the same time, as advantage may be taken of their simultaneous hatching to put two broods of chickens to one hen, and remove all the unhatched eggs to the nest of a setting hen, as there is frequently several days' difference required in perfecting the operation of hatching. The depraved disposition and careless habits of some hens at times, makes such a course desirable, as they appear to be entirely deficient in the organ of *philoprogenitiveness.*

Chickens may be weaned when from four to six weeks old, by providing them with an enclosure to protect them from the attacks of the older fowls, who acknowledge no right but that of might; and also, so far removed from the mother hen as to be beyond the sound of her clucking. Without some efforts to wean the chickens, the mother hen will keep from laying a long time, and labor to procure subsistence for her brood when there is no occasion for it.

When it is desired that a hen should not set, although disposed to do so, it is only necessary to confine her with one or two others and a protector, in a box having grates on one side, and feed them well for two or three days, when she will return to laying again.

I have already intimated the food that should be furnished to hens, but that I may be distinctly understood, I will state my own practice, and some of the results. I procure pinched wheat and seeds thrown out by the cleansers at a flour mill, for the principal food of my hens, throwing into the box occasionally, a peck or two of corn and oats. For my chickens, I prepare a dough of boiled potatoes and corn meal, until they are a week or two old, when I feed them with wheat and such crumbs as are made in the kitchen. With this method of feeding, I have obtained from something less than one hundred and fifty laying hens, over nineteen hundred eggs in the month of January, a month selected as usually the most unpropitious in the year. My estimate of the cost of eggs through the year, is four cents a dozen; and chickens weighing one and a half pound each, six cents.

In my management of hens, I find great pleasure as well as profit. It is my invariable practice, in my visits to the hen-house, to treat them with a little music, in the way of a familiar whistle. This becomes to them, in a short time, a well known call and I have often "put out my whistle" in a hearty, laugh, to see my flock of nearly two hundred fowls flying towards me from all directions, when I have whistled for them. To make this signal effectual, a few crumbs or grain should be thrown to them as an encouragement. In the winter I never allow my hens to go out upon the snow, excepting in moist warm days; and in the summer I let them out every day just before sunset, when they hurriedly range through the garden in search of bugs, grubs and grass, but are too sparing of time to attempt scratching the beds.

Willis, in one of his letters published in the New York Mirror, gives an amusing and graphic description of the character and habits of a protector of a barn-yard flock. But divested entirely of the ideal, there will be found as great a difference in the health, habits and disposition of different hens, as in their size or color. These differences may be easier learned and better understood by the attentive observer, than they can be described. Of the breed of hens, however, I give a decided preference to what is called, for what reason I know not, the Poland hen.

With such arrangements as I have mentioned, or a similar plan in a barn or wood shed chamber, every family in a city or village, may, at a trifling expense, keep at least twenty hens, that will furnish each year about three thousand eggs, and not far from two hundred plump, full grown chickens for the table. Yet farmers and others have kept hens ranging through their barns, destroying their hay and grain, and scratching and destroying their gardens, proving an unprofitable pest to themselves and a nuisance to their neighbors, when by proper management all these troubles would be avoided, and the fowls would form a source of enjoyment and profit, of too much profit for any thrifty farmer or good natured married man to dispense with.

Bangor, March, 1840. J. S. S.

For the New England Farmer.

ENQUIRY.

Some twenty or thirty years since, I recollect having read an account of a great hunting or shooting match, which the inhabitants of Rowley and vicinity held, perhaps a century since. At that time a very great number of birds, squirrels and other creatures were killed. Their success was the subject of general congratulation, supposing as most did at that time, that these creatures were the greatest enemies which the farmer had to contend with, and thought that they could now look forward for crops greatly increased for several years if not through future generations, as it was not likely these would soon if ever become so numerous again. But the result was, as every well instructed man at the present time would expect, that the next year every kind of grain and fruit fell a sacrifice to worms and insects,—a less obvious but a much more powerful and unmanageable part of creation;—the locust, the cankerworm and caterpillar, each devouring what the other had left. The account of this was to me highly interesting at the time, and I should be very glad to see it again, not only because it was a very well written article, containing many observations of much practical utility, but because if brought before the public again, I must think it would help forward a change in public sentiment and practice, which is certainly

going on yet very slowly;—a change no less important to the interest of agriculture than to the high and benevolent feeling of an enlightened and sanctified heart.

I have kept my mind directed to the subject for many years, and have had conversation with many enlightened and observing persons in different parts of the state and nation, and am constrained to believe, that while there may be occasionally in some places an undue proportion of some kinds of birds and other creatures, who subsist much if not mainly on worms, insects, &c., and that sometimes there may be a lack of food for them, as there is occasionally for man, and that in consequence they may be driven to use very unceremoniously the grain and other kinds of produce which men were cultivating for their own use, yet, as a general fact, the number and variety of birds is at present much less through the country than the true interest of the farmer calls for, and that the killing them, as is ordinarily done, for sport, is an act as contrary to true wisdom as it is full of wanton cruelty; and I think that an observation which has been made is susceptible of as clear proof as the nature of the case admits,—which is, that the farmer who destroys a bird, loses thereby a peck of grain and a bushel of fruit, and robs his neighbors of twice that amount: while he who cultivates no land and yet sports himself in their destruction, does his citizens a wrong for which he can make no just and adequate restitution.

The leading object of this communication is to inquire if any one recollects the account referred to, or can give information through your paper where it can be obtained. B.

THEORY OF DEW.

Notwithstanding the researches of Dr Wells, and others, upon the subject of dews, there are many who still remain either in total ignorance of the principles of the deposition of the moisture, called dew, or hold to the old theory that it is caused by the *air alone becoming colder*. The ancient Greeks observed the fact, that dew was deposited in clear nights, and not in windy or cloudy ones, and every barefooted boy who goes out early in the morning, knows that it is much more abundant on the grass by the wood side, than it is upon the sand or gravel in the road itself. Dr Wells, of England, made many experiments upon the subject; and from the facts thus ascertained, explained the cause of the phenomena, in a treatise which he published some time ago. He ascertained the cause of the deposit of moisture in the form of dew, to be the radiation or throwing of the heat imbibed by the sun, which thus cools the particles of air that come in contact with it, and causes the moisture which was in the warm air to be condensed. It may be well, for the better understanding of the theory, to state, in the first place, that as all bodies receive heat more or less easily, so they part with it, or *radiate* it more or less easily. Some bodies will part with, or radiate the heat which they have received, as fast again as other bodies. Hence they become cooled before the others. Warm air will hold more moisture than cold air: therefore, the body which radiates heat fastest, becomes cool first, and cools the particles of air which surrounds it, which deposits the moisture or dew upon it first. Grass parts with its caloric, or heat, much faster than sand or gravel—hence it has more dew upon it.

The following experiments may not be uninteresting to some of our readers. After a long period of drought, when the air was very still, and the sky serene, Doctor Wells exposed to the sky, twentyeight minutes before sunset, previously weighed parcels of wool and swandown, upon a smooth unpainted and perfectly dry fir table, five feet long, three broad, and three feet in height, which had been placed an hour before, in the sunshine, in a large, level grass field.

The wool, twelve minutes after sundown, was found to be fourteen degrees colder than the air, and to have acquired no weight. The swandown, the quantity of which was much smaller than that of the wool, was at the same time thirteen degrees colder than the surrounding air. At the same time, the grass was fifteen degrees colder than the air four feet above the ground. From such experiments, he established the proposition, that bodies must become colder than the surrounding air, before they become dewed.

He also explained the reason why there was no dew in cloudy nights. It is because the clouds act as reflectors, and throw the heat back again; in the same manner as the bright tin top of a tin baker throws down or reflects the heat down upon the bread. A blanket, or umbrella, put over any body, would prevent the dew settling on that body for some time, although it was falling all around it.

On this principle, vines, and other things, are protected from frosts, by putting a blanket or covering over them, at night.

Frost is dew, frozen. By putting the covering over the body, it reflects heat back, and prevents, for some time, the dew being deposited upon what it covers.—*Maine paper.*

From the Farmer's Cabinet.

QUINCE TREES.

The cultivation of the quince is much neglected, though it may be justly ranked among our most valuable fruits. For preserves, it has long maintained a distinguished rank, and the fruit either in a green or dried state, is not surpassed by any other article for communicating a pleasant and agreeable flavor to pies made of apples. It is easily propagated by layers and also by cuttings, and any approved kinds may be perpetuated by grafting in the usual manner.

It produces the finest, fairest fruit when planted in a soft, moist soil, in a rather shady or sheltered situation. It keeps well if properly managed, and always sells for a very high price; the markets never being overstocked with them, as is the case with many other fruits in plentiful seasons.

The quince derives its name of Cydonia, from the town of Cydon, in Isle of Crete, whence it was originally brought. There are four kinds of the quince;—the pear quince, from the resemblance in its shape; the apple quince; the Portugal quince, which is less harsh and more juicy than the two preceding kinds; and the eatable quince, which is less astringent and milder than either of the other kinds enumerated. The trees being small, they can be planted ten or twelve feet apart along fences, or in places where they won't interfere with other tree, or the business of agriculture.

It is hoped that the present season will not be permitted to pass over without the cultivation of this valuable fruit being considerably extended among our farmers and gardeners. PHILIP.

EXCRETIONS OF PLANTS.

The following notice of some of the substances excreted by the stems and leaves of plants, is taken from a work of Prof. Lindley: "Acid excretions are formed by the hairs of the chick-pea, the stag horn sumach and some other species; and it is supposed that the singular property which some lichens possess of imbedding themselves in calcareous rocks is owing to their excretion of oxalic acid. The stinging power of the nettle is produced by an acrid matter excreted by the hairs with which their leaves and stalks are covered. The nettles of Europe simply produced an uneasy sensation, but some of those of India have brought on lock-jaw, and even death itself by the torments which they inflict. A discharge of sticky matter by the hairs or by the bark of plants, is of very common occurrence. It is this which gives their viscidity to such plants as the rose acacia, to the buds of the horse chesnut, and to the young leaves of the beech tree. In many cases this sticky matter is analogous in composition to common bird lime.—Wax, or some substance analogous to it, is of very common occurrence on the surface of plants. Saccharine matter, in different forms, is also a common excretion from many plants. European manna is discharged by the flowering ash *(fraxinus ornus,)* either in consequence of wounds artificially inflicted on the branches, or of the puncture of insects. The manna spoken of in scripture is yielded by a species of tamarisk, and by the camels-thorn, a plant which is common in the deserts of southern Asia. But the most curious instance of matter excreted from the leaves, is afforded by the fraxinella. The leaves of this plant are covered with little brown glands, which excrete a species of volatile oil. In warm weather this oil is converted into vapor and surrounds the plant, as an inflammable atmosphere, readily taking fire when a flame is brought in contact with it, and burning without doing any injury to the plant.

The possession of the power of rejecting such matter as is found unsuitable for their nourishment, would seem to be a necessary condition of the life of plants. Did they not possess it, their vessels must soon become clogged, and rendered unfit for performing their appropriate office. From some experiments which have been performed, it would seem that plants possess the power of disembarrassing themselves of all kinds of matter which are found unfit for their nourishment. Macaire took a plant of mercury *(mercurialis annua,)* and having divided its roots into two parcels, introduced one of them into a glass containing a weak solution of acetate of lead, and the other into a glass of pure water. At the end of a few hours he found that the glass of pure water had become perceptibly tinged with acetate of lead, which of course must have been taken into the circulation by the roots on one side of the plants, and thrown off again by the roots on the other. In this instance the excreted matter was thrown back without having undergone any change: as a general thing, however, this is not the case; thus, leguminous plants, of which the pea may be mentioned as an example, although they absorb only carbonic acid and water, will excrete the elements of those substances combined so as to form a species of gum. Grasses excrete principally certain alkaline and earthy muriates and carbonates, but very little of any gum.—*Farmer's Register.*

Be always at leisure to do good.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1840.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—1839.

We have much pleasure in announcing the appearance of the annual publication of the Essex Agricultural Society; a pamphlet of about 150 pages, and full of interesting matter. It embraces the excellent address of Allen Putnam, Esq., of Danvers, which we have already given to the readers of the N. E. Farmer, and which we know they must have perused with instruction and pleasure; and various reports of their committees on manures, on milch cows and heifers, on the diseases of animals, on reclaimed meadows, on the dairy, on fruits and vegetables, on domestic manufactures, on ploughing, on working stock, on forest trees and mulberry trees; to which is added the Commissioner's report of the first agricultural meeting, held at the State House in Boston, the current year, containing Mr Webster and Prof. Silliman's speeches on that occasion, with copious notes on housing sheep, on cultivating turnips, on draining, on redemption of peat meadow, on irrigation, on cultivating the bean and the tare, on the product of sheep, and on agricultural statistics.

These together constitute a valuable pamphlet, and add to the obligations which the public are already under to this exceedingly well-managed and useful society.

This periodical publication of the transactions of the Society, is one of the most useful measures which could be adopted by them to promote their objects; and the members of the Society are not insensible how much they are indebted for it to the intelligence, zeal and indefatigable and public spirited efforts of their secretary, to promote the agriculture of the county and the prosperity of the Society.

It is very much to be wished that the other societies in the commonwealth would adopt a similar plan, in order to preserve their often highly interesting reports.—These pamphlets in the first place, embody much valuable local information. They serve in the next place, to give a permanent record to the names of the successful competitors for premiums. In the next place, they bring the society more constantly before the public and excite a strong interest in its concerns. This must often serve to remind its members of their duty to the society and to the subject; and lead likewise, to a regular increase of members.

We shall take leave here to repeat suggestions which we have often made, respecting the form in which premiums are generally distributed by our agricultural societies. With the exception of the Berkshire Agricultural Society, they are usually given in money, without any formality whatever. The name of the successful competitor is barely announced, and he calls quietly upon the Treasurer for his money, which commonly goes at once into the general purse for expenditures, and is seldom heard from or thought of afterwards. Not so where the premiums are bestowed in the form of silver plate or some article of value with the name and occasion endorsed. Then it is preserved and shown with honest pride in the family, and is transmitted to others, and operates as a constant incentive to excellence In Berkshire the premiums are given, where it can be done, in public, at the close of the annual address. This has an exciting and excellent influence.

We shall give to the public such extracts from this pamphlet as are likely to be interesting; and begin with the publication of a valuable paper from Mr Keely, of Haverhill, on the subject of ploughing in green crops for manure. H. C.

—

[From 'Transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society.']

ON TURNING IN GREEN CROPS AS A MANURE.

The committee on the subject of turning in green crops as a manure, report:

That they have examined Mr Keely's communication, and are of opinion that his experiment is not such as to entitle him to the Society's first premium, inasmuch as the plants turned in are not the most succulent for the purpose of enriching the soil; also, because the experiment was extended only to a single year, without reference to the future improvement of the soil

The committee are of opinion that a part of the field should have been manured in the usual way, in order to test with exactness, the comparative advantages of the two processes; but do not hesitate to express their satisfaction at the result of Mr Keely's experiment, as far as it went, and would recommend that a gratuity of ten dollars be awarded him for his valuable communication

For the Committee,
JOSEPH KITTREDGE.

Dec. 31, 1839.

—

JOHN KEELY'S STATEMENT.

To the Committee of the Essex Agricultural Society on turning in Green Crops as a Manure:

GENTLEMEN—Perceiving that for several years no claim has been entered for premium on green crops, and deeming the subject one of great importance, I have concluded to present you with a statement on this subject. And I do it more with the hope that perhaps others may become incited to try the efficacy of this mode of manuring, than on account of the great result abstractedly considered.

The experiment was made on the same estate where the crop of rye was raised, on account of which I obtained the Society's premium, in 1832, but on a part which is very inferior in quality to the piece on which that crop was raised. It is indeed so poor that nothing but sorrel grows upon it spontaneously.

But although I have long been firmly convinced of the great efficacy and economy of green crops, yet I thought sorrel alone scarcely fit even to plough in for manure, until the following circumstance convinced me of the contrary.

At the close of June, 1837, the ground then being too wet to hoe, (as a storm was just clearing off,) I began to plough the piece of land, on which I intended to sow rye, principally, to prevent the sorrel from seeding. The next day was fine, and I left the remainder unploughed until September, when the whole was ploughed and sown together. The following spring a difference was seen on that part where the sorrel had been ploughed in, which difference became so striking that my neighbors saw it and inquired to know the reason. This determined me to try the experiment, which is here presented.

At the close of June, 1838, while the sorrel was yet in blossom, I ploughed it in immediately after a heavy rain, and sowed upon the furrow one bushel of buckwheat per acre On the 6th and 7th of August immediately after a rain, and while the buckwheat was in blossom, that was also ploughed in. On the 13th September it was sowed with winter rye. The present season, the striking difference between this rye and that in the same neighborhood on land of better quality, was seen and remarked by several individuals, and some persons who have known the estate for more than forty years, say that they never before saw such heavy rye on that part. The whole piece contains nearly 2 3 4 acres; and it yielded 48 bushels of rye, of excellent quality, weighing 59 lbs. per bushel. I should remark that about one-third of an acre of this piece is so poor that no sorrel ever grew there; the buckwheat was very light, and of course the rye was also. I should judge that upon rather more than two acres the produce was twenty bushels per acre. The previous crop on the same piece in 1837, did not average quite six bushels per acre.

You will perceive that the whole extra expense of this experiment is one ploughing and one harrowing, and one bushel of buckwheat per acre, which would cost about three dollars and a half per acre, and the extra produce 14 bushels per acre.

Although this crop is not large compared with other crops upon rich land, yet for land of this poor poor quality, I consider it very large. Nor is this all. This crop was not obtained by extra expense, to force the land to yield more than it could continue to produce; it is only the first of a series of crops, which if continued by the same management, undoubtedly will, in a few years, double its fertility, instead of exhausting it; and especially if the stubble is ploughed in soon after the crop is harvested, for this with the weeds amongst it, will furnish a *third* green crop, and the scattering grain which would otherwise be lost, will then grow and very materially increase the first green crop the ensuing season

You will allow me to remark that experience and close observation upon the management of green crops, have convinced me that three things, among others which may be more obvious, are essential to a successful result.—First, it is absolutely necessary that the plough used is of good construction. Second, that some method be devised to prostrate the crop before the plough, or it will not be covered I use a wooden roller about four inches in diameter and sixteen inches long, fixed on the end of the plough beam in a frame temporarily put on for the purpose. Third, it is necessary that the land should be ploughed very soon after rain, while it is moist, or the plough will crowd the furrow instead of turning it handsomely. It will also be of considerable advantage to roll the land after each ploughing

Very respectfully,
JOHN KEELY.

Haverhill, Sept. 24th, 1839.

THE SEASON.

The impression seems to be general that fruit trees from appearances, have never passed through a winter with less injury, and that the promise of an abundant yield was never stronger. The months of December and January were remarkable for the intensity of the cold. February and March were remarkable for the mildness of the temperature. April has been variable; sometimes frowning and sometimes smiling. The season however, must be regarded as early; and the opportunities for ploughing and the usual spring work were seldom more favorable. It is a little extraordinary, that in spite of all the complaints of hard times, labor commands a high price, and laborers in most cases make their own terms.

H. C.

IMPORTATION OF EGGS. The sloop A. M. P., Capt. Brightman, has regularly, for twentythree years, made twentyfive trips a year from Westport, Mass, to this port, during which period she has brought to our market, on an average, five hundred dozen of eggs each trip, making a total of 3,450,000, averaging twelve cents per dozen—amounting to thirtyfour thousand five hundred dollars! *Providence Jour.*

It is stated that there is corn enough in Alabama to last the inhabitants two years.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, April 20, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 290 Beef Cattle, 20 pairs Working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves, 225 Sheep and 1040 Swine. About 200 Swine were at Market last week.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—The prices obtained last week for a like quality were not sustained. First quality, $6 50 a $6 75. Second quality, $6 00 a $6 25. Third quality, $5 25 a $5 75.

Working Oxen.—Sales $70, $78, $85, $90, and $105.

Cows and Calves.—Sales $28, $32, $33, $35, $40, and $42 50.

Sheep.—No sales effected.

Swine.—All sold. Lots to peddle at 4 1-2 a 4 5-8 for sows, and 5 1-2 a 5 5-8 for barrows. Large barrows 5 1-4. Large sows 4. At retail 5 to 6 1-2.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending April 19.

April, 1840.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 13	44	51	45	N. W.
Tuesday, 14	35	55	46	S. E.
Wednesday, 15	44	60	47	E.
Thursday, 16	38	53	51	E.
Friday, 17	46	65	44	S. W.
Saturday, 18	49	74	63	S.
Sunday, 19	47	53	44	N. W

GARDENERS KNIVES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have this season imported and now offer for sale a few very superior Garden Knives, for pruning, &c. manufactured expressly for Gardeners, and warranted superior to any article of the kind before imported.

Also—a large assortment of Budding Knives, Grape Scissors, &c. &c.

April 22.

STRAWBERRIES.

The subscriber offers for sale at his Garden, in Brighton, Mass., the following eight varieties of Strawberries, viz.

Warren's Seedling Methven.
Methven Castle.
Bath Scarlet.
Royal Scarlet.
Early Virginia.
Hautbois.
English Wood.
Monthly.

Orders left at the Garden, or directed to the subscriber, Brighton, Mass., or left with JOSEPH BRECK & CO. will meet with prompt attention.

For particulars see previous advertisement.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, Mass., April 22.

TO LET.

4 Acres of Land situated in Brighton, within 5 miles of Boston. There are 30 large fruit bearing Apple Trees upon the land, which is in fine cultivation, very level and easy of access; was planted with corn last year and well manured. Terms reasonable. Apply to E. A. STORY, at Winships' Nurseries, or F. W. STORY, at this office.

April 22.

Webster's and Silliman's Agricultural Speeches.

Just published and for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 22.

Sweet Potato Slips.

Just received and for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 22.

Clover Seed.

50 tierces of Eastern Clover Seed for sale by

April 22. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

BEAN POLES.

500 dozen of Bean and Dahlia Poles, for sale by MOSES FRENCH, Maine Wharf, Broad Street, near the bottom of Summer St.

April 15. 4t

Week's Treatise on Bees

For sale by

April 15. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Mulberries, &c.

Fruit Trees of all the different species, of the most celebrated kinds. The Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Roses and Herbaceous Flowering Plants, for 1839, is ready and will be sent to all who apply. In that catalogue the very best kinds of fruit, so far as proved, are particularly designated by a *.

Morus Multicaulis and other Mulberries, Cockspur Thorns, Buckthorns, Strawberries, Raspberries, Grape Vines, &c. &c. Dahlias, Roses, Honeysuckles, &c.

All orders will be promptly attended to; and trees, when so ordered, will be securely packed for safe transportation to distant places.

WILLIAM KENRICK.

Nonantum Hill, Newton, April 8, 1840.

Scions of Fruit Trees Wanted.

The subscriber wishes to procure Scions of the following, for which an equivalent will be given in money or choice Scions.

Fruits.—Early Bergamot Pear, of Coxe. Sheuk's Pear, from Pennsylvania. Burlingame Pear, from Marietta, Ohio. Green Sweet, Hightop Sweet, and Seek no Further, of Thatcher's American Orchardist. Dartmouth Sweet Apple. Lewiston Egg Plum, Tomlinson's Charlotte, Gifford's Lafayette, of Prince's Pomological Manual. And all the Plums originated by Mr Corse, of Montreal, except the Nota Bena.

ROBERT MANNING.

Pomological Garden. Salem, April 8, 1840.

BONE MANURE.

A good supply of ground bones constantly on hand, and for sale at William Chace's mill, one and a half miles northwest of Providence bridge.

A sample may be seen at Remington and Whitman's store, No. 32 Market St. Providence, R. I.

Also, Bone Mills on a new and improved construction, for sale at the above place.

April 8. 8t

SPLENDID PAEONIES,

AT REDUCED PRICES.

Pæony Whittleji, or Chinese Double White; Pæony fragrans, or Rose scented fine Double Crimson; P. Humei, Double Chinese Crimson. All the three preceding at $1 each. Also, P. Tenuifolia or Single Crimson; Double Crimson; P. Albiflora or Single White; Double Crimson. An assortment of all colors.

WILLIAM KENRICK.

Newton, April 8.

FARMING AND GARDEN TOOLS.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 51 & 52 North Market Street.

500 dozen Cast Steel and other Scythes.
300 " Patent Scythe Snathes.
200 " Common do. do.
100 " Cast Steel Hoes.
200 " Crooked Neck Hoes.
200 " Common do.
100 " Prong do.
100 " Garden do. superior.
500 " Hay Rakes.
1500 " Scythe Rifles.
500 " do. Stones.
100 " Ames' and other Shovels.
50 " Spades.
100 " Manure Forks.
200 " Hay do.
300 pair Trace Chains.
100 " Ox do.
200 Halter do.
300 Chains for tying up Cattle.

Together with a most complete assortment of Farming and Garden Tools of every description.

March 11 JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FARM FOR SALE.

The highly cultivated Farm of the late Captain A. Delano, situated in North Charlestown, N. H. four miles from the flourishing village of Clarmont, containing 160 acres of first rate arable and wood land, with a well finished two story dwelling house with all necessary out buildings, unfailing water at house and barns, two good barns, with shed 80 by 20 feet, and all necessary buildings for a well stocked farm; together with a good assortment of young fruit trees, among which is a fine variety of pear and apple in a flourishing condition, with two good gardens. Terms liberal. Apply to H. F. DELANO, on the premises, or ISAAC HUBBARD, Esq. Claremont.

North Charlestown, April 8, 1840. tf*

TO LET.

A large Garden, Green House and Hot House, situated in Cambridge, about one mile north of the University, and within three miles of Faneuil Hall Market. Said Garden contains about four acres of excellent land, and the houses are spacious and convenient, and well stocked with young Grape Vines. The above described property will be let upon moderate terms. For further information application can be made to the subscriber in Cambridge.

Cambridge, April 1. 3t* OZIAS MORSE.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Alum, American,	pound	5	5½
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 12	5 25
Pot, " " "		4 75	5 00
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 75	2 25
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 00
Beef, mess,	barrel		15 50
No. 1.	"	13 00	14 00
prime,	"	11 00	11 50
Beeswax, white,	pound		
yellow,	"	28	35
Bristles, American,	"	35	70
Butter, shipping,	"	10	11
dairy,	"	15	18
Candles, mould,	"	13	14
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"		38
Cheese, new milk,	pound	10	
Cider,	dozen	1 25	1 50
refined,	barrel	2 00	4 00
Bone Manure,	bushel		32
in casks,	"		27
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	46
Flax. (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	2 18	2 25
Bay, Chaleur,	"	1 75	2 00
Haddock,	"	1 10	1 12
Mackerel, No. 1	barrel	11 50	11 75
No. 2,	"	9 50	9 75
No. 3,	"	5 00	5 50
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.	"	5 00	5 25
Salmon, No. 1,	"	17 00	18 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"	5 87	6 00
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	5 37	5 50
Richmond canal,	"		5 37
Alexandria wharf,	"		
Rye,	"	3 75	
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	3 50	
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel		
southern flat, yellow,	"	60	61
white,	"	56	57
Rye, northern,	"		
Barley,	"	75	
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	43	45
southern,	"	35	37
Grindstones, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough		18 00	19 00
do. do. do. finished		28 00	30 00
Hams, northern,	pound		
southern and western,	"		8½
Hay, best English, per ton,		16 00	18 00
Eastern screwed,		11 00	11 50
Hops, 1st quality,	pound		40
2d quality,	"		33
Lard, Boston,	"	10	11
southern,	"	10	11
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	22	24
New York red, light,	"	21	23
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	22
Boston dry hides,	"	20	22
Lime, best sort,	cask	85	90
Molasses, New Orleans,	gallon	25	29
Sugar House,	"	50	55
Oil, Sperm, Spring,	"	1 07	
Winter,	"	1 12	1 15
Whale, refined,	"	50	55
Linseed, American,	"	68	70
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.			3 50
Pork, extra clear,	barrel	18 00	19 00
clear,	"		17 00
Mess,	"	14 00	15 00
Prime,	"	13 00	14 00
Whole Hogs,	pound	4½	5
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 37	2 75
Red Top, southern,	"	70	80
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 00	2 25
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	1 37	1 62
Red Clover, northern,	pound	12	13
Southern Clover,	"		15
Soap, American, Brown,	"	6	7
" Castile,	"	12	13
Tallow, tried,	"	10	11
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.	2 50	3 00
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	48	50
American, full blood, washed,	"	45	47
do. 3-4ths do.	"	40	42
do. 1-2 do.	"	37	38
do. 1-4 and common,	"	35	37
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	42	47
No. 1,	"	35	40
No. 2,	"	23	25
No. 3,	"	18	20

MISCELLANEOUS.

SINGULAR HISTORICAL INCIDENT.

The Essex (Salem) Register, of 9th instant, quotes from the Mayor's Address to the City Council, the following singular facts: "In the amount received for rents is included the sum of $153 82, which was paid by the lessee of the small tract of ground at Winter Island, which has, for several years, been occupied as the site of a Powder Magazine. This tract, described in the old Town Records as 'a portion of the upland, beach, and flats, at Obears's or Palmer's head,' was leased originally, to Richard Derby, for the term of *one thousand years* from March 1, 1756, by an indenture executed by the Selectmen, under the authority of a vote of the town, at the rate of *a shilling a year*. The rent appears to have been irregularly paid by the lessee and his successors, though it is all shown to have been collected. The present occupant, to relieve himself from the trouble of annual payments, as well as, perhaps, to place his title beyond the risk of contingency, proposed to pay in advance without discount, the amount that would become due for the unexpired term of nine hundred and seventeen years, viz, 917 shillings, or the sum above stated, in our present currency. The proposal was of course accepted, and it may serve for the amusement, as it must require the leisure of some idle arithmetician, to calculate the vast gain secured to the city by this apparently inconsiderable financial operation."

THE PLANT INSECT.

At a very late meeting of the London Zoological Society, a communication was read from Mr Mackey, of the British consulate at Maracaibo, on a plant, called Projojoy in the country from which it is derived, and which attains the condition of a plant from the strange metamorphose of an insect. In the insect which was described, some of the legs have already changed into roots, and in that state it was presented to the contributor. It was announced that a similar insect had lately been discovered in North Carolina. When the creature assumes the form of an insect or animal, it is about an inch in length, and most resembles a wasp in appearance. After it has reached its full length it disappears under the surface of the ground and dies, soon after which, the two fore legs begin to sprout and vegetate, the shoots extending upwards, and the plants in a short time reach a height of six inches. The branches and the leaves are like trefoil, and at the extremities of the former there are buds which contain neither leaves nor flowers, but an insect, which as it grows falls to the ground, or remains on its parent plant feeding on the leaves till the plant is exhausted, when the insect returns to the earth, and the plant shoots forth again.

A DEFICENCY OF EVIDENCE.—A son of Galen, who was very angry when any joke was passed on physicians, once defended himself from raillery by saying—'I defy any person whom I ever attended, to accuse me of ignorance or neglect.' 'That you may do safely,' replied a wag; 'for you know, doctor, dead men tell no tales.'

"What I gives is nothing to nobody," as the miser said, when asked how much he contributed for charitable purposes.

WINSHIP'S NURSERIES,

BRIGHTON, MASS.

The proprietors of this Nursery are now ready to receive orders for their extensive assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Forest Trees, Shrubs, Herbaceous Plants, Roses, Green House Plants, Vines, &c.

Orders from a distance will be properly packed to go with safety to any part of the United States, and will be delivered in the city free of expense.

The Nursery grounds are five and a half miles from the city, by the Worcester Rail Road; cars stop three times a day Orders by mail addressed to Messrs. WINSHIP, Brighton, Mass., will be promptly attended to.

PEAR, PLUM, GRAPE VINES, &c.

2,000 Pear Trees, of the most approved kinds.
1,000 Plum Trees, of the most approved kinds and extra size—many of them have borne the past season.
500 Quince Trees.
3,000 Isabella and Catawba Grape Vines, from 6 to 15 feet high, most of them have borne fruit—Black Hamburg, Sweetwater, Pond's Seedling.
30,000 Giant Asparagus Roots.
5,000 Wilmot's Early Rhubarb or Pie Plant, lately introduced.
Also—a good assortment of Gooseberries, Roses, &c. of different kinds.
All orders left at this office, and at Gould & Howe's Iron Store, 8 Faneuil Hall or with the subscriber at Cambridgeport, will meet with immediate attention.

SAMUEL POND,
March 4. Cambridgeport, Mass.

SCIONS OF FRUIT TREES FOR SALE.

The collection of fruits cultivated at the Pomological Garden consists of more than 1400 varieties of the Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry and Peach. Scions of all those which have been proved are offered to nurserymen and others.—Gentlemen wishing to send collections of American fruits to their friends in Europe can be furnished with most of those of first rate quality. They are warranted true to their names, and are in all cases cut from fruit bearing trees.
Salem, January 28, 1840. ROBERT MANNING.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale a great variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs at Nursery prices, consisting of Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, and Cherry of every variety.
Horse Chesnuts, Weeping Willows, Mountain Ash, Silver leaved Aberle, Spruce, Fir, Larch and other Ornamental Trees.
Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, &c.
Also—Roses, Honeysuckles, Altheas, Snowberries, Persian Lilacs, &c.
Orders carefully executed, and the trees well packed, in such a manner that they can be sent without injury to any part of the country.
March 11.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

A wooden two story house, with six acres of fertile land, situated in Medford, within half a mile of the village Said house contains four rooms on the first floor and six chambers. The premises are plentifully supplied, with a variety of choice fruit trees, in a thrifty and bearing condition.
A portion of the land is a superior location for a shipyard. The above is a pleasant and desirable place for a country residence.
For terms inquire of JONATHAN BROOKS, near the premises, or WILLIAM BRIGHAM, No. 35 Court Street, Boston.
March 25.

SINA SILK WORMS EGGS.

The Eggs of the celebrated Sina Silk Worm, now offered for sale, were raised in 1839 by M. Camille Beauvais, superintendent of the experimental silk farm, established near Paris, by the government of France. The Sina Silk Worm was introduced to France from China by Louis XVI. in 1784, and has been proved by M. Beauvais to be superior to all other silk worms. They are also stated to possess the precious property of hatching simultaneously. Just received, by the subscriber, from the Chevalier Bodin, who is the only agent for their sale in France.
Each sheet contains an ounce and is signed "Camille Beauvais." Price $8.

WILLIAM KENRICK, Newton.
Or apply to JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
March 25. eptf

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

Just received, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, per Ship Chatam, from England, a splendid assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, viz.

100	dozen	best Cast Steel Sickles.
50	"	stout Cast Steel Briar Hooks.
25	"	Breaking up Hoes.
5	"	Pruning Chisels with Saws.
20	"	pair Grass Shears.
25	"	pair Pruning Shears, with slides.
25	"	pair Ladies Ivory handle do. do.
25	"	pair Ladies Coco do. do.
5	"	Large Hedge Shears.
25	"	Wakefield's Pruning Shears, with slides.
10	"	Vine Shears.
50	"	Large Pruning Knives.
25	"	Budding do. do
15	"	Cast Steel Edging do
5	"	" " Hay do.
40	"	" " Garden Trowels.
20	"	Bill Hooks.
10	"	Furze Bills.
10	"	Gentlemens Bright Bills.
5	"	" Horticultural Hatchets.
50	"	Dutch Hoes.

April 1. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SILK WORMS EGGS.

Just received, a few ounces of Silk Worms Eggs, from Smyrna, said to be of a superior variety. Price $8 per ounce, clean seed. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.
April 1.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

A valuable farm in Harvard, County of Worcester, the well known Bromfield Place; an excellant dairy farm, well wooded, the house spacious, fitted for two distinct families. The situation among the most pleasant to be found, especially for aprivate or High School. Bordering a part of the farm is a beautiful sheet of water, containing two islands belonging to the estate. Inquire of the Subscriber at South Natick.
March 4, 1840. I. H. T. BLANCHARD.

Green House Plants.

Green House Plants of every description furnished at short notice, and well boxed, so that they may be sent to any part of the country in safety.
March 11. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

BOX FOR EDGINGS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have for sale 500 yards of Box for edgings, in prime order; price 37½ cents per yard; every yard will make two when reset.

Giant and Early Wilmot Rhubard.

Roots of extra large size at 25 cents per root, for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

White Silesia Sugar Beet Seed.

1000 lb. of the genuine White Silesia Sugar Beet Seed; the best variety for the production of Beet Sugar and warranted to be pure from mixture.
For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO No. 52 North Market Street. Boston, March 4, 1840.

GARDEN MATS.

For sale at the New England Farmer, 100 dozen Garden Mats, of extra quality, for covering hot beds, &c
Feb. 12. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FOR SALE.

A short horned Durham Bull bright red, four years old in April next, was raised by Gorham Parsons, Esq. at Brighton Apply to MARTINDAVIS, River Street, Dotchester.
March 25. 6t*

ROHAN POTATOES,

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 52 North Market Street, at $4 per barrel, $2 per bushel.
October 16 JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Buckthorns.

Buckthorns for Hedges, for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO. from 20 to $30 per thousand, according to size and age.
March 25.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing are entitled to a reduction of 50 cents.

TUTTLE, DENNETT AND CHISHOLM, PRINTERS,
17 SCHOOL STREET.... BOSTON